are still in jail. I talked to the authorities only yesterday, but I was not allowed to meet these people. The people continue to be detained there. Immediate action may be taken and the false cases against them may be withdrawn. The situation is becoming grave there and people are being beaten up and nobody is passing attention to their woes. I want that immediate action should be taken.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL (Seewan) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question of Kala-azar has been raised in the House earlier also. Thousands of people have died of Kala-azar in Bihar. It is the question of life and death for millions of people. This question has been raised in the House many a time. I would like to make a submission to the Government through you to take over its eradication under its control. There can be no other burning problem in Bihar than this. Whenever I raise this question here, no heed is paid I feel that the authorities are least responsive to this problem. We are arguing and the Government does not listen to us and the poor people are dying there. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel that the question that has been raised by Shri Patel is very important for Bihar. Kala-azar is just like plague. I had said this that day also. In 1977 when our party was in power, Shri Raj Narain used to be the Health Minister. We received some assistance from the W.H.O. A single injection costs Rs. 500. If one member of a family falls a victim of this disease, the whole family contracts the ailment. The disease has spread in whole of Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh. It is as dangerous as plague. Bihar Government has proved to be a failure in it. Neither it is financially strong nor it has got any medical equipment to check the spread of this fever. The Central Government too is not capable. Therefore, I would like to make a demand from the Central Government to take some help from the W.H.O. for the eradication this disease, otherwise it might spread all over the country in a few days.

[English]

SHRI P. M. SAYEED (Lakshadweep) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a very serious situation has arisen on account of the non-availability of the essential commodities in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. You have visited Lakshadweep. So, you know about it. You have also visited Andaman. Unless and until the supplies go from the mainland, all the people will be starving to death. The Minister of Home is here. The Minister of Civil Supplies is also here. Kindly direct them to see whether the essential commodities are available over there or not. It should not be taken so lightly. I want to request the Government through you to see that they should be taken care of.

MR. SPEAKER : I am sure the Government will look into it. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This is not going on record. *(Interruptions)**

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) : Let the Deputy Minister say something about it. *(Interruptions)*

**Not recorded.*